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CPYRGHT

Pell Criticizes CIA Payments

**Says Students Should
Have Received Open
Aid From State Dept.**

Journal-Bulletin Washington Bureau

Washington — Sen. Claiborne Pell said yesterday that government financing of United States student groups should have been done openly through the State Department rather than secretly through the Central Intelligence Agency.

In remarks on the floor of the Senate, he said secret financing through the CIA may have been decided on because of administration fears that Congress would refuse an outright appropriation for open support.

"If this was the case," he said, "I would have preferred an outright fight and have lost, rather than go around the back door," to finance the student organizations through the CIA.

Senator Pell said that some kind of government aid to the student organizations was needed to support their overseas activities and especially to finance United States student representation at international student conferences.

"Rather Than Overtly"

Only student representatives of extremist groups would have "built up the necessary head of steam to finance their trips abroad" without government aid, he said. "The average student just would not have cared enough to have found the money to go."

The result, the senator said, would have been "complete domination of these student conventions by young people of Communist countries."

"The mistake was that this support was given covertly by the CIA rather than overtly by the Department of State or the United States Information Agency," he added.

He suggested that the administration may have been fearful that Congress would not have approved open appropriations for the student organizations because "the average student group is a little left of center."

Senator Pell said the secret funding of the student organizations demonstrates the need for "closer congressional review" of CIA activities and for separation of the intelligence collection and analysis functions of the CIA from other types of "covert operation" conducted by the agency.

"Some Political Means"

He said that if there had been closer congressional review of the CIA, Congress "might have found some political means to secure proper funding of these student activities without embarrassing the CIA and the nation."

Senator Pell has supported moves in the Senate to broaden the membership of the committees that oversee CIA operations.

He noted that he had recommended at the time of the attempted invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs, that the intelligence and covert operations functions of the CIA be separated.

The senator said that "over the years the CIA has been a remarkable, skillful and professional organization" and that its qualities have been enhanced by the leadership of the current director, Richard Helms.

He inserted in the Congressional Record several analyses of the controversy over the secret CIA funding, including an analysis from the Providence Sunday Journal of Feb. 26 by Lewis W. Wolfson, chief of the Journal-Bulletin's Washington bureau.

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